

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated April 13, 2006 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claim 9 is amended to clarify claimed features and is not amended for the purposes of overcoming any alleged prior art. The amendment is made without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter is added. Support for the amendment may be found at least at Figs. 8a-8e and Specification paragraph [0055]. Claims 23-26 have previously been canceled per Response of August 9, 2005. Claims 1-8 have previously been withdrawn by the Examiner per Applicants' previous election of Group II (claims 9-26) of August 25, 2004. New claim 27 is added. Accordingly, claims 1-22 and 27 are currently pending. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 9, 10-13, 18, 19 and 21-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,714,266 B1 (to Ueda et al.)(hereinafter "Ueda"). Claims 9, 10-12, 14, 18, 21-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,978,058 (to Sung)(hereinafter "Sung"). Claims 14-17 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Ueda or Sung and further in view of Related Art and U.S. Patent No. 6,268,289 B1 (to Chowdhury et al.)(hereinafter "Chowdhury").

The rejection of at least claims 9-22 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claims 9-22 are allowable over the cited references in that each of these claims recites a combination of elements including, for example, "depositing a metal material on an array substrate; forming a metal line by etching the metal material; and forming a silicide layer on the metal line in direct contact with upper and side surfaces of the metal line." None of the cited references including Ueda, Sung or Chowdhury, singly or in any combination, teaches or suggests at least these feature of the claimed invention. It is further noted that the Office incorrectly states that Ueda and Sung show "a method of fabricating a contact line structure for a liquid crystal display device." (Office Action at pages 2 and 4). This is incorrect. Ueda teaches a transmission type LCD and Sung teaches a schematic view of part of a thin film transistor display device without any teachings at all of a method of fabricating a contact line structure for a liquid crystal display device.

The rejection is further incorrect in that the Office uses Applicants' Related Art as part of its obviousness rejection. Applicants' Related Art is not Admitted Prior Art and cannot be used as a basis for rejecting any of the claims.

Applicants also respectfully note that the Examiner should have reasonably anticipated Applicants' current amendments to the claim(s) and thus an Advisory Action in response to Applicants' Response would be considered premature and inappropriate. See generally, MPEP 706.07(a).

Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 9 and claims 10-22 which depend either directly or indirectly therefrom, are allowable over the cited references at least for the above reasons.


Claim 27 is also allowable.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

Dated: July 13, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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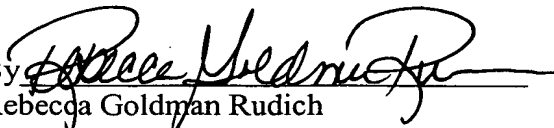
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